

ABSTRACT

In the community, besides the formal languages we can also find the informal ones. One of them is slang. One definition of slang states that it is a temporary language used by the youth. Anyway, Malang slang is somewhat different. It has survived for over 40 years and used by people of various ages, included the old people.

Nowadays, there is a phenomenon that the speakers of Malang slang are getting fewer and fewer. Based on that phenomenon, the writer makes the study.

The study is about the attitude of Malang people towards Malang slang. The respondents are divided in four age-groups: from 12 to 25, 26 to 39, 40 to 43, and those who are more than 44 years old. By knowing the attitude, the writer also hopes to be able to know the condition of Malang slang nowadays and its reasons.

From the results of the questionnaires, the writer concludes that the status of Malang slang declines. The conclusion is gained from the fact that the older the age-group, the more positive the attitude; and in the contrary, the younger the age-group, the more negative the attitude.

There are some factors for the decline. The first is the sense of belonging. The further from the time of Malang slang creation — in 1950s —, the lower people's sense of belonging towards malang slang; and vice versa. The second is the reason of using Malang slang. The older people use it to symbolize Malang people identity and place the slang paralel with other languages. The younger people, using it just as a play language, consider it as 'under-language' which is lower than Javanese. The third reason is the change formation. In the older people's time, the complicated rules makes the speakers of the slang have big pride. But now, the rules have been simplified. It makes the speakers not having such a pride since everyone can use it. All the three factors above are the reasons of the declining condition of Malang slang.